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Application No. 09/891,387  
Attorney Docket No. 010803

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
Amendment Filed: July 17, 2006

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A relay apparatus which is connected to a host computer through a network and transmits data received from said host computer to a device, comprising:

a first basic unit into which ~~a~~ peculiar network address is set and which performs a relay control between said host computer and said device;

a second basic unit into which only the same network address as that of said first basic unit is set and which performs a relay control between said host computer and said device; and

a common unit which makes one of said first basic unit and said second basic unit operative as a present system, monitors its status, and when an abnormality is detected during said monitoring operation, stops the basic unit of the present system and switches it to an operation of the basic unit of a standby system.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of said first and second basic units comprises:

a host communication control unit which is connected to said host computer and communicates therewith;